

American people is a defining purpose of government.

We have to start thinking about the American people. They need a bailout. They need to be bailed out of their difficulties with insurance companies. They need to have a job. They need pension security. It is time to stand up for the people and stop these bailouts.

THE VETERANS' HERITAGE FIREARMS ACT

(Mr. REHBERG asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. REHBERG. During World War II and the Korean War, veterans serving overseas often brought back firearms collected on the battlefield. These were trophies of their service, not tools for criminal activity. And yet, after fighting for the preservation of our freedom, a badly written law has made criminals out of American heroes. Unless weapons have been registered with the Federal Government, the veteran, or their heir, can be convicted of illegally possessing the firearm.

This is an offense of justice. That is why I have introduced the Veterans' Heritage Firearms Act, which provides a limited amnesty for veterans who possess these relics to register their firearms without fear of prosecution. This amnesty also extends to any lawful heirs who inherited these weapons.

It's time to stop treating our veterans like criminals. It's time to start treating them like the heroes that they are.

A DREAM TURNS INTO A NIGHTMARE

(Mr. LEE of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. LEE of New York. Madam Speaker, last week I received an e-mail from a constituent, Lori Adams, who runs the Silver Lake Country Market in Perry, New York. Her e-mail reads, "I thought owning a business would be a dream, but it feels more like a nightmare. I keep thinking we are gaining ground only to slide back. I've had to make tough choices to stay open. When I hear about the stimulus and the bailouts for people who made bad choices, I feel even more defeated. When is Washington going to realize it's the small businesses that are on the front-line of this crisis?"

This is an example of the countless messages I have received over the past weeks from families and small business owners struggling to survive and outraged by how Washington continues to spend their money without restraint. For every dollar this so-called "stimulus" devotes to tax relief for small businesses, Washington gets to keep \$6 to create new government programs.

We need a timely, fiscally responsible plan that helps small businesses innovate, creates good paying jobs and grows the economy for our families,

not adding to an already bloated Federal Government.

LET'S SUPPORT THE AMERICAN TAXPAYER

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, yesterday I spoke to some small business owners in South Carolina, including Betty Jackson at The Sunset Grill in West Columbia. They are concerned with the billions in spending some in Congress are proposing. They also know that we need to take action and create jobs. I was grateful to tell them that big spending is not the only solution. There are fiscally responsible solutions that put more money back into the pockets of taxpayers, help American businesses create jobs and help boost our housing market.

Congress does not have to choose between a big spending agenda and no action. We can create jobs while holding the line on spending. We can help small businesses without expanding government.

Our constituents go to work every day to make our communities wonderful places to live and to raise families. We must not forget, when we talk about billions of dollars in spending, that this is the taxpayers' money and not the government's money.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th.

SENATE COMPOUNDS WASTEFUL SPENDING

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, it is important that we continue to help the American people understand what is in this so-called "stimulus bill." The bill passed last week, but in addition to every Republican voting "no," there were 11 brave Democrats who also voted "no." That has not been told much on the news.

Here are some more facts about how the Senate, which is now debating the bill, has made this awful bill even worse. When the public knows the facts, it then can react and tell its Members what they should and shouldn't do. The Senate added \$88 million for ATV trails, park trails, fish and wildlife trails and fish passages. There is \$524 million to create 388 jobs in the United States through the State Department Capital Investment Fund. This equals \$1.35 million per job created. There is \$696 million for the Department of Homeland Security headquarters consolidation, \$70 million for a support computer for climate research, \$34 million of renovations at the Department of Commerce and \$20 million for IT improvements to the Bu-

reau of Industry and Security. The American people are angry, and they should be.

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WHERE DO WE BORROW IT FROM?

(Mr. McCLINTOCK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Madam Speaker, when we speak of running up \$2 trillion of debt to pay for this year of unprecedented spending, where does that money come from? We don't have it, so we borrow it. Where do we borrow it from? We'll borrow that \$2 trillion from the same pool of funds that would otherwise have been available for employers seeking to add jobs, or homebuyers seeking to buy homes or consumers seeking to buy new cars and appliances. But now that money won't be there for consumers or homebuyers or employers to borrow to expand the economy because government has borrowed it instead to increase government programs like the National Endowment for the Arts.

Madam Speaker, when are we going to stop hurting the economy and start helping it?

SO-CALLED ECONOMIC STIMULUS BILL

(Mr. SMITH of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Madam Speaker, some people look at the huge, so-called economic stimulus bill and think it's a Christmas present. But the Federal Government is not Santa Claus. Elves are not producing this money. This money isn't free, and the American people will get the bill.

The \$1 trillion in spending and interest equals more than \$9,000 for every taxpayer. And the unprecedented deficit will inevitably hike inflation and damage the economy.

Only \$90 billion, or 12 percent of this spending spree, will stimulate the immediate creation of jobs which are needed now. Most of the spending doesn't occur for 2, 3 or 4 years.

It would be far more effective to provide tax incentives and investment credits to the small businesses of America that already create 70 percent of all the jobs.

FISCAL CONSERVATIVES

(Mr. CULBERSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CULBERSON. Madam Speaker, fiscal conservatives may be outnumbered today in the Congress of the United States, but we take our obligation to lead very seriously. We understand, with common sense, that each one of us as Americans are endowed